

Covers the Torrance
District Like a
Blanket.

Torrance Herald

"There is no
Substitute for
Circulation."

Tenth Year—No. 95

Published Semi-Weekly

TORRANCE, CALIF., FRIDAY, DEC. 12, 1924

Every Tuesday and Friday

5c Per Copy

ABBOTT ON GRILL FOR THREE DAYS

VETS VOTE TO ERECT HOME

Legion Members Authorize
Construction of New
Clubhouse Here

BUILDING COST \$10,600

Post Nominates Officers for
1925; Election at Next
Meeting

The Bert S. Crossland Post of
the American Legion passed two
important resolutions Tuesday
night.

The first provided that the post
proceed with the construction of
a new clubhouse on its Carson
street property at a maximum cost
of \$10,600.

The second provided that in the
construction of the building Tor-
rance materials and labor be used
whenever possible.

The post went on record unani-
mously in favor of buying it in
"Torrance," and the building com-
mittee will act accordingly.

C. B. Bell reported for the build-
ing committee, recommending that
a new committee be named to pro-
ceed with the building as soon as
new officers of the post are elected.
His recommendations were
adopted. Detailed plans will be
drawn at once and work will start
about Feb. 15.

The plans for the new building
call for a structure that will, when
completed, be one of the finest Le-
gion clubhouses in the state.

The grounds around the struc-
ture will be utilized for tennis and
handball courts, parade grounds
for Boy Scouts and other recre-
ations. The building will include
a room especially for Torrance
Scouts.

Nominations for officers of the
post here were made Tuesday
night. The election will be held
at the next meeting.

Promise Lights In Shoestring Strip Shortly

Reeve Receives Assurances
That Improvements Will
Go In Soon

The Torrance Business Men's
Association has received assur-
ances that electric lights will soon
be available for residents of the
shoestring east of Torrance.

Harmon E. Reeve, president of
the local organization of mer-
chants, recently wrote to the Bu-
reau of Power and Light request-
ing that lights be made available
in the rapidly developing district
east of here.

He received in reply a letter
from Burdett Moody, business
manager of the Bureau of Power
and Light. The letter stated that
"the Bureau of Power and Light
has always expected to take care
of this district as early a date
as was practicable."

Continuing, the letter reads as
follows: "I now wish to assure
you and other good friends in your
district that the construction of
electrical distribution lines to take
care of all of your people has al-
ready been authorized. The only
questions as to the date of fin-
ishing the completion?"

Trio Helpers Are Entertained Here

Mrs. Ethel F. Waite and Miss Ila
Danielsen of Highland avenue en-
tertained the Trio Helpers yester-
day afternoon. The ladies will
meet again in a few days to take
the Christmas box for the Odd Fel-
lows' orphanage at Gilroy.

Those who spent a busy day at
the Waite home were Mrs. Ada
Anderson, Mrs. J. L. Luck, Mrs.
Catherine Gertzen, Mrs. Ella B. Miller,
Mrs. R. S. Frownfelter, Mrs. Ray
Ackison, and Mrs. Emil Hespe.

Mooney, Boys and Girls: There
is a real treat coming. See page
at top of 5th column.

Torrance Christmas Shopping Brisk

Woman Governor Does Not Neglect Duties as Mother



Mrs. Nellie Rees of Wyoming, the first woman governor in the
history of her state, is not allowing her duties to interfere with
her job of being both mother and "father" to three strapping boys,
seen here with her. William, 13, is at the left, and George and Am-
brose, 21, twins, right and below, respectively.

Parent-Teacher Membership Is 280 Here Now

Campaign Ends Successfully;
Monthly Meeting Is
Held Wednesday

Opening with the flag salute, fol-
lowed by the singing of the P. T. A.
song, the Torrance P. T. A. held
its regular monthly meeting at the
clementary school Wednesday after-
noon.

Owing to the approach of Christ-
mas, the attendance was not as
large as usual.

Christmas trees, with their pretty
decorations, gave a festive air to
the occasion.

Each of the chairmen gave a
short report on the work of her
department.

The membership chairman re-
ported 280 members at the close
of the membership drive on Dec. 13.

Mrs. Hewitt and Mrs. Nix of
Gardena gave a number of the
former's compositions, both vocal
and instrumental.

Beatrice Jackson, of Mrs. Le-
Baron's room, gave a couple of
piano solos.

Frederick Rees, of Miss Thomas'
room, read "Taking Care of the
Baby," and a group of children
gave a demonstration of a reading
lesson.

Mrs. Sapp read an article from
the Child Welfare Magazine on
"Box Office Censorship." A short
discussion followed.

KEYSTONE DANCE

The Keystone Boosters are giving
another of their justly famous
dances tomorrow night, Dec. 13.
It's a dandy floor—the Keystone
hall floor—and they always have
an excellent orchestra.

If you've never attended one of
these dances you don't know what
you've missed. Don't miss this one.
If you have attended—you don't
need this reminder.

Hey, Skinnay! A Big Show For a Spud!

"Hey, Skinnay, let's go down to
Renn and Tomkins and buy a
spud."

"Whatayuricin, spud?"

"Why, you boob, doncha know?
You buy a potato from Renn and
Tomkins for a cent and then you
get into the movie Saturday after-
noon by turning the spud in to
the Torrance theatre."

"What's the picture?"

"Jackie Coogan in 'Little Robin-
son Crusoe.'"

"Gee whiz! Wait 'til I get a cent
from Ma."

(Editor's Note.—A large crowd
is expected.)

HUGE GIFT PLAN IS POPULAR

Crowds Ask for "Buy in Tor-
rance" Coupons at
Stores

TO GIVE \$1120 IN GOODS

Mountain of Merchandise
Grows as More Business
Firms Take Part

Torrance and vicinity went out
this week to glean the benefits of
the big Christmas festival in
which Torrance business men will
give away more than \$1000 in mer-
chandise.

From business firms of every
character came word today, that
the demand for Christmas "Buy-
in-Torrance" coupons is running
strong.

It was originally planned to give
away \$1000 in merchandise, with
50 business firms co-operating.
Fifty-six firms are now taking
part in the Festival of Giving, with
the result that the value of the
merchandise which will be given
away on five nights at the Tor-

TORRANCE MOVIES

Moving pictures of men and
institutions in Torrance will be
shown tonight at the Torrance
theatre and will continue to be
shown for several nights. This
film was taken under the super-
vision of Elmer Grace, manager
of the theatre, in connection
with the Festival of Giving
staged by Torrance business
firms.

Torrance theatre will be \$1120-\$120
more than was originally anti-
cipated.

Buy in Torrance coupons will be
given to shoppers for each dollar's
worth of merchandise purchased.
For purchases amounting to frac-
tions of a dollar coupons will not
be given.

Keep Half of Coupons

Shoppers who receive coupons
should retain one half of the ticket
and dispose of the other half as
follows: Either leave it with the
business firm from which the pur-
chase is made or deposit it in the
big strongbox in front of the Tor-
rance theatre.

Several of the business firms are
installing special boxes in which
coupons may be deposited.
It was announced today that on
the five nights of the drawings—
Dec. 19, 20, 22, 23 and 24—win-
ning tickets must be presented
when articles of merchandise are
awarded.

Numbers will be announced both
inside and outside of the theatre.
There will be two drawings each
night, and at each drawing be-
tween 20 and 30 separate pieces of
merchandise will be awarded. No
article will be worth less than \$1,
\$10, \$15, and \$20.

News Is Spreading
News of the Buy in Torrance
Gift Festival is spreading rapidly
(Continued on Last Page)

TEACHER RESIGNS

Albert Cruzon, a member of the
high school faculty, has resigned
and will devote his time to busi-
ness affairs.

Mr. Dodds will fill Mr. Cruzon's
place as teacher of public speaking.

NOTICE

Residents of Torrance who
know of any family or indi-
vidual in need in the city of
Torrance are requested to tele-
phone No. 44-W or call at 1740
Gramercy avenue. Communica-
tions of this nature will be fol-
lowed by speedy relief for the
family or individual, and the
need will be given a cheerful
Christmas.

Mrs. Joseph Soddy passed the
day Wednesday in Los Angeles.

Observations

Killing the Goose that Lays the Golden Egg—Calles'
Kindness—"Jarring Sects"—The Opium Con-
ference—Making Inlanders Coast-Wise
By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

AN increase of 2 cents per gallon in the gasoline tax is pro-
posed in California. It seems too much.

The state legislature should not kill the goose that lays the
golden egg. Few citizens object to the present tax of 2 cents
per gallon. They regard it as an impost easily paid in small
amounts that are not missed. But they look with alarm at any
proposal to pay more—at least until they are sure that the money
thus collected is being spent with all possible economy.

From this point of vantage it appears that the state legislators
spend most of their time thinking up new methods of taxation
and devising means of increasing those already in existence.

The gasoline tax presents easy meat. The vast majority of
people favor it as a sensible method of collecting taxes for high-
way maintenance. So the legislators in their mad hunt for
money reason: "This is a popular tax. So let's increase it."

The writer is only a meek citizen, unversed, perhaps, in the
ways of Sacramento statecraft. But he has the temerity to believe
that if the state officials would spend half as much time studying
methods of avoiding expenditures as they do in racking their
brains for new methods of raising and spending money, California
and all its component parts and citizens would be a heapsize
better off.

I'm for highways, wide, long highways, well built, properly
maintained—for highways and still more highways—and know
that roads cost a lot of money. But I'm not quite sure that all
the highway money which is collected is being spent as wisely
and as economically as possible. I don't say that it isn't, but
I'm not yet sold on the fact that it is. Hence a suspicion of the
proposed increase in the gasoline tax.

STATEWIDE figures are not available at this particular moment.
But here are some local facts that may give the taxpayer pause:

In a six-mile area of which this community is close to the
geographical center, 200,000 gallons of gasoline are sold each month.
These sales in this very small area give the state \$4,000 a month
or \$48,000 a year. This money is used exclusively for highway
maintenance. It seems that under economical methods this amount
would be ample for the maintenance of highways in the six-mile
area, with plenty to spare to pay this district's share of main-
tenance of state highways.

But then, the writer is only a meek citizen, unversed, perhaps,
in the ways of Sacramento statecraft.

OBREGON and Calles, retiring and new presidents of Mexico,
topped off Seneca Calles' inauguration ceremonies with a visit
to a bull fight. Calles was called as a friend of the downtrodden
peons. He is opposed to injustice to human beings, but apparently
thinks that cruelty to an animal is all right.

WILL HAYS terms religion "the world's one essential industry."
He did not mention, however, that too much competition in any
essential industry is worse than no competition at all. If mortals
were forced to give up all their institutions but one, it is probable
that they would retain the church. Yet competition between the
sects is making the teachings of religion more difficult every day.

The layman has a pretty clear idea of the teachings of Christ,
which were extremely direct and simple. But he does not under-
stand, nor will he attempt to reason out, the jarring multitudes
of sectarian claims and counter-claims.

Controversy over rites, ceremonies, interpretations and whatnot
has clouded the simple doctrines set forth in the Sermon on the
Mount.

More bed-rock religion, as taught by the Carpenter of Naz-
areth, and less battling over side issues, will make the "world's
most essential industry" even more essential.

THE United States is forcing its will on the world at the inter-
national opium conference at Geneva. Strangely enough, several
Oriental nations are opposing the restrictions demanded by the
American delegates. Compromises were suggested. An American
delegate leaped to his feet, shouting "The American people will
not compromise with a curse!"

After tremendous cheering the compromise was rejected by a
vote. Canada, Australia, Ireland voted with the United States.
English delegates, with an eye on Indian policy, did not vote.

THERE would be no difficulty in bringing our navy up to a
parity with the fleets of Britain and Japan, if senators and
congressmen from inland states were taken on a tour of the
United States coastline. Most of the congressmen and senators
give too much thought to representation of their own districts
and states and too little consideration to the republic as a whole.

To Congressmen Porque of Four Corners, Missouri, a new post-
office for Podunk or a drainage ditch for Alfalfa county is more
important than protection of the national coastline. The reason
is that they know Podunk and Alfalfa county and never saw
Charleston, either of the Portlands, Newport News, Savannah or
Seattle or San Pedro.

The navy department is doing its best to educate the inland
yokels to the need of a strong and efficient navy, but it is a tough
job to make a dirt farmer coast-wise.

HENRY FORD, according to authentic reports, is planning on con-
siderable expansion of his Southern California manufacturing
facilities. Details have not been announced. But even the
unexplicit announcement is important. The market of the Pacific
coast and the even greater market across the Pacific beckons
irresistibly to eastern manufacturers. The time is not far distant
when every large manufacturing concern will operate a branch on
the Pacific slope. Most of the industries will locate in California,
where prevail the most excellent working conditions on the face
of the earth.

THE spectacle presented by the trial of Kid McCoy for the
murder of Mrs. Teresa Mors is pitiful.

Always handicapped by an immature mind, McCoy tortured
himself with drink. Befuddled an already undeveloped brain with
booze and the result is generally tragic. There is no more dan-
gerous person in the world than an intoxicated moron. The
McCoy case seems to be more of a subject for alienists than it
does for courts.

FORMER POLICEMAN CENTRAL FIGURE IN BRIBE CASE DRAMA

Relates Long Series of Confessions and Implications on
Stand in Trial of Anderson and More-
wood in Los Angeles

DECLARES EX-CHIEF GAVE HIM \$150 IN CASH

Frymier Tells of Paying Hermosa Attorney \$750 to Secure
Release of Five Men—Mrs. Draffen and
Dr. Shidler Testify

Two dramas are being enacted in the Los Angeles Hall
of Records this week.

In one court Kid McCoy, one time idol of the prize
ring, weeps openly in court as the relations which led to
his alleged murder of Mrs. Mors are unfolded.

Across the hall, for two days, Stanley Abbott, former
motorcycle officer of Torrance, and star witness for the
state in the extortion-bribery trial of B. M. Anderson and
Attorney A. P. Morewood, is passing through his ordeal.

It is an ordeal that began at 10:45 Wednesday morning
and continued without abatement during court hours until
last night, when the former Torrance policeman left that
courtroom, worn and nervous from the long, severe grill-
ing, only to return to the stand this morning—a target for
the cross-fire of questions from attorneys for the defense.

Series of Confessions
The long, painful story told by
Abbott on the stand was a series
of confessions and implications.
He said that he accepted \$150
from Anderson for his part in se-
curing the release of the five
Compton men here last July.

He declared that he objected
because the amount was so small.
He asserted that the first sworn
statement he made (to City Trust-
ee Torrance and City Attorney
Briney) was the truth.

Then he testified that when An-
derson returned from his vacation
he made another affidavit at the
behest of Anderson, denying the
truth of his statement to the Tor-
rance officials and declaring (he
now says falsely) that Torrance
and Briney exacted the original
statement by threats of extortion
charges.

He declared that Anderson fright-
ened him into leaving California
for Troy, New York, when it was
learned that the grand jury was
investigating the case and that
Anderson provided him with \$85,
passed out of Anderson's bedroom
window at 10:20 at night, to help
him on the way.

Time after time, during the un-
folding of this long testimony, Ab-
bott wrung his hands in nervou-
ness, and the perspiration stood
out on his brow. Twice Deputy
District Attorney Costello called
for a recess, during which he
talked with Abbott in an effort
to calm him.

The charges against Abbott have
been entirely dismissed. But no
court could dismiss the punish-
ment he received for his as-
serted weaknesses and transgressions
while he detailed them there on
the stand.

Admits Running
Abbott related the same details
of his encounter with Draffen on
Carson street as were previously
set forth by other witnesses. He
asserted that he ran after Draffen
struck him and that he went to
the station with the five men and
got in touch with Chief Anderson
at the American bowling alley.

Abbott says he told Anderson that
he had "five birds locked up" and
that he had talked it over with
Schenk (a former employee of the
Furness cafe), and that Schenk
had advised him to "get all he
could out of them."

Abbott testified that Anderson
said "We'd better get an attorney
on the job."

Then, according to the witness,
he drove to Redondo with An-
derson, where, he said, they went to
the office of Chief Henry of Red-
ondo Beach. The witness stated
that Anderson talked with Henry
for several minutes, but that he
could not hear the conversation.

He declared, however, that he did
hear Henry telephone the Elks Club
and ask for Morewood and that,
leaving the phone, Henry told An-
derson Morewood was out, but
would be at the club in half an
hour.

Abbott testified that Anderson
told Henry to have Morewood get
in touch with him (Anderson) in
Torrance as soon as possible.
Abbott testified he told Anderson
he wanted a "big share of this"

(Continued on Page Two)